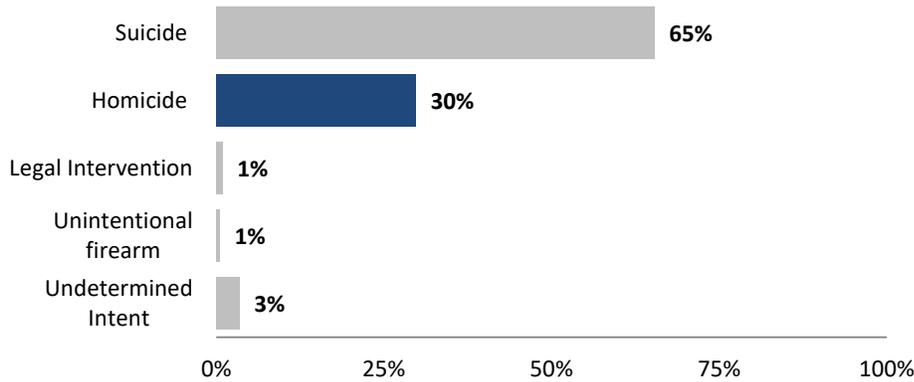


HOMICIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA, 2017

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in North Carolina resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January 2004. This document summarizes homicides among North Carolina residents for the year 2017.

Manner of Death: NC-VDRS, 2017

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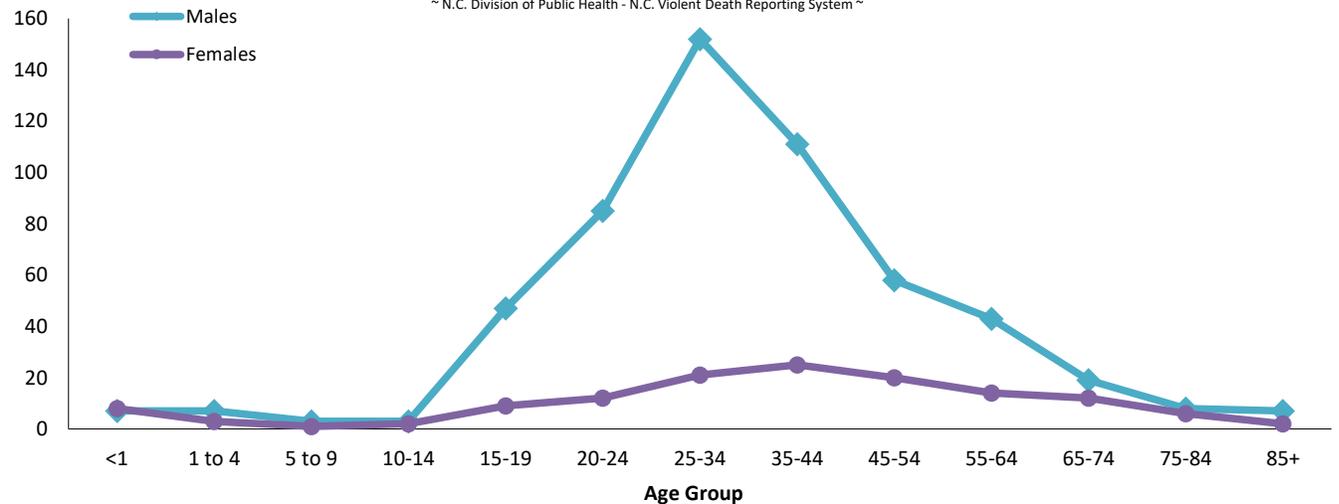


- Of the 2,300 violent deaths in North Carolina, 685 were homicides (29.8%).

- There were 1,503 suicides (65.3%), 21 deaths from legal intervention (0.9%), 12 unintentional firearm deaths (0.5%) and 79 deaths of undetermined intent (3.4%).

Homicides Stratified by Age Group and Sex: NC-VDRS, 2017

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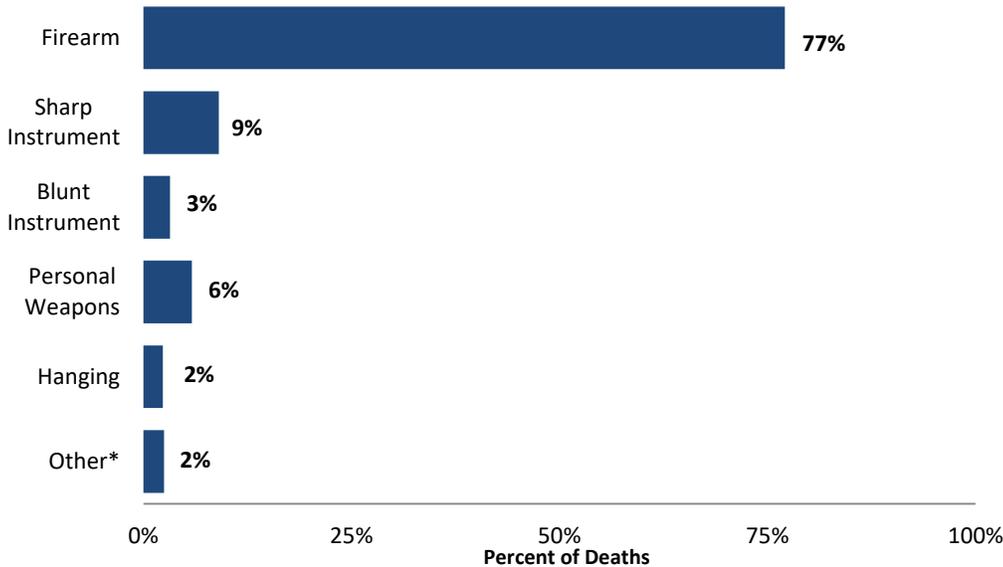


- For nearly every age group, there were more homicides for males than females. Homicides among females peaked among those aged 35-44, with a rate of 3.8 per 100,000. For males, the homicide rate peaked among those aged 20-24, with a rate of 23.4 per 100,000. The rate of homicides was approximately 4.3 times greater for males than females overall, and the rate for 15-24 year-olds was 5.9 times greater for males than females.

- Homicide patterns differed by race. Although non-Hispanic (NH) whites composed nearly two thirds (64.1%) of the total population, they accounted for 29.3% of homicides (n=201 deaths), while NH Black homicide victims accounted for 60.4% or 414 deaths. In 2017, the rate of homicides for NH Blacks was 18.2 per 100,000, compared to a rate of 3.1 per 100,000 for NH whites. NH American Indians also had a high rate of homicide, 12.2 per 100,000 (n=15 deaths).

Method of Death: NC-VDRS, 2017

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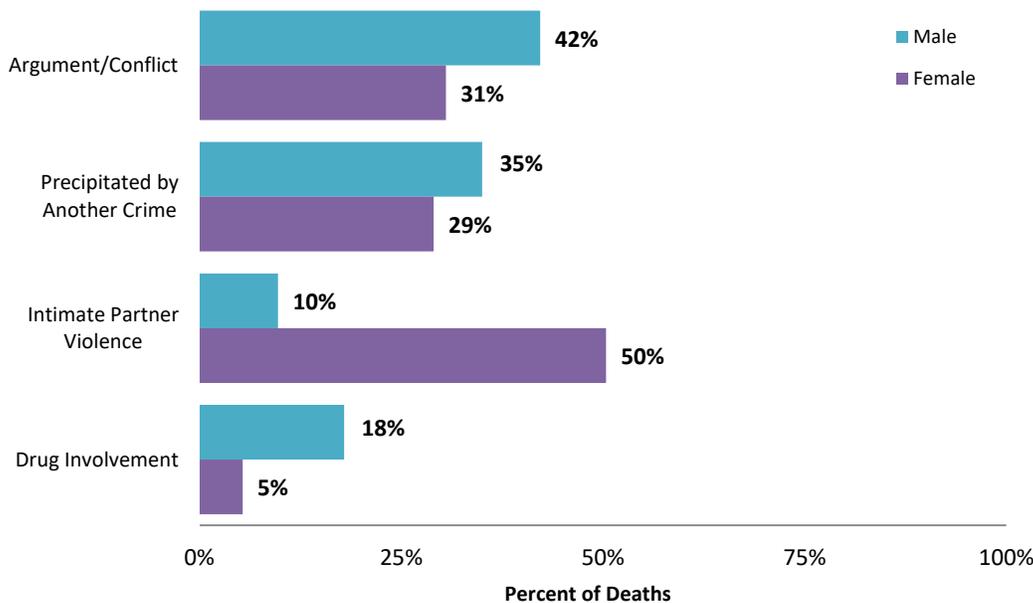
- Firearms were used in 77.1% of homicides, while sharp instruments were used in 9.1% of all homicides.

- The remaining methods used in homicides were each used 6% of the time or less.

*Other includes motor vehicle, violent shaking, drowning, fire/burns, intentional neglect, unknown method, and other causes of death.

Circumstances of Homicide: NC-VDRS, 2017

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- Argument, abuse, or conflict unrelated to intimate partner violence (IPV) was noted as a contributing factor in 42.2% of male and 30.5% of female homicides with reported circumstances.

- Of the homicides that were precipitated by another crime, such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking, 35.0% were male and 29.0% were female.

*94.2% of cases had circumstance information. 36 males and four females were missing circumstance information.

- IPV was indicated as a contributing factor in 18.0% of homicides overall, 9.7% were male homicides, and 50.4% were female homicides.

- Drug involvement was identified as a contributing factor in 15.4% of all homicides, 17.9% of male homicides, and 5.3% of female homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5NU17/CE002613-05-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health

North Carolina Violent Death
NC VDRS
Reporting System

N.C. Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425
N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432
State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / www.ncdhhs.gov
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Please see the NC-VDRS 2017 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.